

By: Blackwood

H.B. No. 1560

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a state criminal task force coordinating committee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 415.010, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 415.010. GENERAL POWERS. The commission may:

(1) adopt rules for the administration of this chapter and for the commission's internal management and control;

(2) employ an executive director and other personnel necessary in the performance of commission functions;

(3) accept donations, contributions, grants, or gifts from private individuals, foundations, or the federal government;

(4) report to the governor and legislature on its activities, with recommendations on matters under its jurisdiction, and make other reports that it considers desirable;

(5) establish reasonable and necessary fees for the administration of this chapter;

(6) require the submission of reports and information by a state agency or a county, special district, or municipality in this state that employs officers or county jailers;

(7) contract with other persons as the commission considers necessary for services, facilities, studies, and reports required for:

____.B. No. ____

1 (A) cooperation with municipal, county, special
2 district, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in training
3 programs; and

4 (B) performance of the commission's other
5 functions;

6 (8) make or encourage studies of law enforcement,
7 including police administration;

8 (9) conduct research to improve law enforcement and
9 police administration and stimulate research by public and private
10 agencies for that purpose; [and]

11 (10) establish minimum standards relating to
12 competence and reliability, including educational, training,
13 physical, mental, and moral standards, for licensing as an officer
14 or county jailer; and

15 (11) establish a state criminal task force
16 coordinating committee which coordinates criminal task forces
17 throughout the state to aid in the arrest, prosecution, and
18 identification of persons suspected of being involved in
19 drug-related offenses, repeat felonies, or violent crime.

20 SECTION 2. Section 415.014, Government Code, is amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Sec. 415.014. INFORMATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST. (a) The
23 commission shall prepare information of public interest describing
24 the regulatory functions of the commission and the procedures for
25 filing and for resolution by the commission of public complaints.
26 The commission shall make the information available to the general

1 public and appropriate state agencies.

2 (b) The commission shall make information reported to them
3 by the state criminal task force coordinating committee available
4 to the general public and appropriate state agencies.

5 SECTION 3. Subsection (a), Section 415.082, Government Code,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (a) A person convicted of a criminal offense shall pay as
8 court costs \$10 [~~\$1~~] in addition to other taxable court costs.
9 These additional court costs shall be collected in the same manner
10 that other fines or court costs in the case are collected. Subject
11 to amounts retained under Section 415.083(d), \$1 of those costs
12 shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the law
13 enforcement officer standards and education fund, 50 cents shall be
14 deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the Law
15 Enforcement Management Institute fund, and \$8.50 shall be deposited
16 in the state treasury to the credit of the State Criminal Task
17 Force Coordinating fund.

18 SECTION 4. Chapter 415, Government Code, is amended by
19 adding Subchapter F to read as follows:

20 SUBCHAPTER F. STATE CRIMINAL TASK FORCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

21 Sec. 415.111. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

22 (1) "Board" means the board of directors of the State
23 Criminal Task Force Coordinating Committee.

24 (2) "Coordinating committee" means the State Criminal
25 Task Force Coordinating Committee.

26 Sec. 415.112. COORDINATING COMMITTEE. The State Criminal

____.B. No. ____

1 Task Force Coordinating Committee is created to coordinate criminal
2 task forces throughout the state to aid in the arrest, prosecution,
3 and identification of persons suspected of being involved in
4 drug-related offenses, repeat felonies, and violent crime.

5 Sec. 415.113. BOARD. (a) The coordinating committee is
6 governed by the board, composed of 15 members, with each of the
7 nine commissioners appointing one board member.

8 (b) Appointments to the board shall be made without regard
9 to the race, color, religion, sex, handicap, or national origin of
10 the appointee.

11 (c) The director of the Department of Public Safety of the
12 State of Texas, the executive director of the criminal justice
13 division of the office of the governor, one state senator appointed
14 by the lieutenant governor, one state representative appointed by
15 the speaker of the house of representatives, one district or county
16 attorney appointed by the governor, and the attorney general shall
17 serve as voting members of the board.

18 (d) To be eligible for appointment to the board, a person
19 must be at least 21 years of age and a resident of this state.
20 Each appointee must be of good character and may not have been
21 convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.
22 Each appointee must meet the education and experience requirements
23 prescribed for commissioners under Sections 415.004 and 415.005. A
24 person is not eligible for appointment to the board if the person
25 is a commissioner, an employee of the commission, or a person who
26 is related within the second degree by affinity or consanguinity to

1 a commissioner or commission employee.

2 Sec. 415.114. REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBER. The commission may
3 remove a board member at any time at a regular or specially called
4 meeting of the commission by a two-thirds vote of the commissioners
5 present and voting. It is a ground for removal from the board if a
6 member does not have at the time of appointment the qualifications
7 required for appointment to the board or does not maintain during
8 service on the board the qualifications required for appointment to
9 the board. The validity of an action of the board is not affected
10 by the fact that it was taken while a ground for removal of a
11 member of the board existed.

12 Sec. 415.115. TERM OF OFFICE; VACANCY. (a) Members of the
13 board hold office for two-year terms, with each member's term
14 expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

15 (b) If a vacancy occurs during a term, the commissioner or
16 public official who appointed the member who has vacated the board
17 position shall appoint a replacement who meets the qualifications
18 of the vacated office to serve the unexpired portion of the term.

19 (c) The term of a member on the board expires when replaced
20 by the appointing person or when the appointing person no longer is
21 a commissioner or a public official within the provisions of this
22 Act.

23 Sec. 415.116. BOARD OF OFFICERS; MEETINGS. (a) The
24 (attorney general or his designee shall serve as permanent chairman,
25 the director of the Department of Public Safety or his designee
26 shall serve as permanent vice-chairman, and the executive director

____.B. No. ____

1 of the criminal justice division of the office of the governor or
2 his designee shall serve as permanent secretary.

3 (b) The board shall meet at least once in each calendar
4 quarter and may meet at other times as necessary to perform the
5 duties of the board.

6 (c) Eight of the members constitute a quorum for the
7 transaction of business.

8 Sec. 415.117. COMPENSATION. A member serves without
9 compensation for service on the board but is entitled to
10 reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in
11 performing functions as a member of the board.

12 Sec. 415.118. DUTIES OF BOARD. (a) The board shall advise
13 the commission on issues related to the operation of the
14 coordinating committee and shall develop the coordinating
15 committee's goals, tasks, purposes, assignments, policies, rules,
16 regulations, programs, standards, and criteria. The coordinating
17 committee duties include but are not limited to establishing new or
18 coordinating with existing criminal task forces throughout the
19 state to be funded by this Act that utilize state, county,
20 municipal, and special district law enforcement officers and
21 district and county attorneys to arrest and prosecute persons
22 involved in the illegal sale, transportation, and distribution of
23 drugs, repeat felonies and violent crimes.

24 (b) The coordinating committee shall fund whatever
25 equipment, computer information systems, centralized records
26 systems, vehicles, salaries, benefits, overtime, "buy" money and

____.B. No. ____

1 other items needed by the law enforcement officers, district
2 attorneys, county attorneys, or state prosecutors.

3 (c) The commission may assign additional duties to the
4 board.

5 (d) The board shall submit reports to the commission
6 relating to the operation of the coordinating committee as
7 prescribed by the commission.

8 (e) The commission may not adopt a rule relating to the
9 coordinating committee, but the commission shall submit an
10 oversight report to the Texas Legislature prior to each regular
11 session.

12 Sec. 415.115. PUBLIC HEARINGS; REPORTS. The board shall
13 conduct public hearings in each region of the state on a periodic
14 basis in order to ascertain public comments about the operations,
15 priorities, and programs of the coordinating committee. The board
16 shall prepare a report of its activities to the Texas Legislature
17 prior to each regular session.

18 Sec. 415.116. FUND. The State Criminal Task Force
19 Coordinating fund is in the state treasury. The commission shall
20 use the fund in administering the coordinating committee.

21 SECTION 5. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 1989.

22 (b) The change in law made by this Act applies only to costs
23 imposed on conviction of an offense committed on or after the
24 effective date of this Act. For purposes of this section, an
25 offense is committed before the effective date of this Act if any
26 element of the offense occurs before the effective date.

1 (c) Costs imposed on conviction of an offense committed
2 before the effective date of this Act are covered by the law in
3 effect when the offense was committed, and the former law is
4 continued in effect for that purpose.

5 (d) The Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and
6 Education, the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the
7 house shall appoint the initial members of the State Criminal Task
8 Force Coordinating Committee not later than January 1, 1990.

9 SECTION 6. The importance of this legislation and the
10 crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an
11 emergency and an imperative public necessity that the
12 constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several
13 days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

H. B. No. 1560

By Blackwood

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to the creation of a state criminal task force
coordinating committee.

FEB 28 1989

1. Filed with the Chief Clerk.

MAR 13 1989

2. Read first time and Referred to Committee on

Public Safety

3. Reported favorably (as amended)
(as substituted) and sent to Printer at _____

4. Printed and distributed at _____

5. Sent to Committee on Calendars at _____

6. Read second time (amended); passed to third reading (failed) by (Non-Record Vote)
(Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____
present, not voting).

7. Motion to reconsider and table the vote by which H.B. _____ was ordered
engrossed prevailed (failed) by a (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas,
_____ nays, and _____ present, not voting).

8. Constitutional Rule requiring bills to be read on three several days suspended (failed
to suspend) by a four-fifths vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, and _____
present, not voting).

9. Read third time (amended); finally passed (failed) by (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote
of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting).

10. Caption ordered amended to conform to body of bill.

11. Motion to reconsider and table the vote by which H. B. _____ was finally passed
prevailed (failed) by a (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____
nays, and _____ present, not voting).

12. Ordered Engrossed at _____

13. Engrossed.

14. Returned to Chief Clerk at _____

15. Sent to Senate.

Chief Clerk of the House

16. Received from the House

17. Read, referred to Committee on _____

18. Reported favorably

19. Reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute; Committee Substitute read
first time.

20. Ordered not printed.

21. Regular order of business suspended by
(a viva voce vote.)
(_____ yeas, _____ nays.)

_____ 22. To permit consideration, reading and passage, Senate and Constitutional Rules suspended by vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays.

_____ 23. Read second time _____ passed to third reading by:
(a viva voce vote.)
(_____ yeas, _____ nays.)

_____ 24. Caption ordered amended to conform to body of bill.

_____ 25. Senate and Constitutional 3-Day Rules suspended by vote of _____ yeas,
_____ nays to place bill on third reading and final passage.

_____ 26. Read third time and passed by
(a viva voce vote.)
(_____ yeas, _____ nays.)

OTHER ACTION:

OTHER ACTION:

Secretary of the Senate

_____ 27. Returned to the House.

_____ 28. Received from the Senate (with amendments.)
(as substituted.)

_____ 29. House (Concurred) (Refused to Concur) in Senate (Amendments) (Substitute) by a (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting).

_____ 30. Conference Committee Ordered.

_____ 31. Conference Committee Report Adopted (Rejected) by a (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, and _____ present, not voting).

_____ 32. Ordered Enrolled at _____